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Case No. 10432/28

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Housel et al.

Serial No: 09/694,734 Filed: 10/23/2000

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Examiner: Nolan Jr, Charles H. Group Art Unit: 2854

JRE STATEMENT

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Dear Sir:

In compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants respectfully request consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement and the documents listed on the enclosed form PTO/SB/08A. Copies of the listed documents required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2) are enclosed for the Examiner's convenience. A fee transmittal for the fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)(2) is submitted herewith.

This Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, and shall not be construed as an admission that the information therein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b).

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Respectfully submitted,

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

Sheet 1

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

| Complet if Known | | | |
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| Application Number | 09/694,734 | | |
| Filing Date | 10/23/2000 | | |
| First Named Inventor | Housel et al. | | |
| Art Unit | 2854 | | |
| Examiner Name | Nolan Jr, Charles H. | | |
| Attorney Docket Number | 10432/28 | | |

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS Cite No.1 Name of Patentee or Examiner Document Number **Publication Date** Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Initials* MM-DD-YYYY **Applicant of Cited Document** Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear Number-Kind Code^{2 (ifkno wn)} ^{US-} 2002/0048041 A1 04/25/2002 Housel et al. ^{US-} 5,044,619 09/03/1991 Sundquist et al. US-US-IIS-US-US-US-US-US-US-US-US-US-US-US-US-US-US-

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| | Cite No.1 | Foreign PatentD ocument | Publication Date | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear | |
| | | Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known) | MM-DD-YYYY | | Or Relevant Figures Appear | T ⁶ |
| | | EP 1 201 447 A2 | 05-02-2002 | Housel et al. | 0 | |
| | | JP 11-126139 | 05-11-1999 | Kato Takahiro | | |
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nder the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number. C mpl t if Known Substitute for form 1449/PTO Applicati n Numb r 09/694,734 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE **Filing Date** 10/23/2000 STATEMENT BY APPLICANT First Named Inventor Housel et al. Art Unit 2854 (Use as many sheets as necessary) **Examiner Name** Nolan Jr, Charles H. Attorney Docket Number Sheet 2 10432/28 of

| | | NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|---|----------------|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | T ² |
| | | Patent Abstracts of Japan for JP 11-126139 | |
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¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 120 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: